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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY	Poland	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Proposed Decree Making Members of a Family Collectively Responsible for Anti-Regime Action	DATE DISTR.	22 March 1954
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1. The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Poland recently approved a draft decree which will make all members of a family individually and collectively responsible for illegal (anti-regime) acts of any of their members. The decree was written by KALINOWSKI (fnu) and PODLASKI (fnu), both of the General Prosecutor's office. The draft is now being studied by the several departments of the Ministry of Public Security (MBP). It is expected that the plenary session of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, slated to take place on 10 March 1954, will study the draft once more before its release to the public.
2. The decree identifies as a criminal act the withholding of knowledge of any transgression against the state by any member of a family. The crime will carry a maximum sentence of 10 years' imprisonment, confiscation of all property, loss of job and privileges as a citizen and possible banishment to a less sensitive area of the country. The decree is operative only against immediate members of the family, i.e., sisters, brothers, father, mother, wife and children.

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